

middle of May only stragglers were seen. In the second half of May the main body arrived, and after the 10 June the clutches of eggs were complete. Fledged young were seen in the first half of July.

In conclusion, I may add that Dr. Walter's collection is now in the Zoological Museum at St. Petersburg.

XVIII.—*List of the Birds of the Quangtung Coast, China.*

By J. C. KERSHAW, F.Z.S.

The following list of birds is the result of about a year and a half's collecting (October 1901 to June 1903) in the districts round Hongkong and Macao, mostly at the latter place. For the identifications I am mainly indebted to Mr. F. W. Styan. The list of Ducks might be very considerably increased, but I have included only those of which I have shot specimens myself. Attention was chiefly paid to the land-birds, but on the whole the district is a very poor one for trees, the level ground being densely populated and well cultivated, whilst the hills are for the most part barren or sparsely wooded with firs, which are cut periodically for firewood, and never allowed to attain any considerable size. Almost the only patches of wood are behind the villages, and consist principally of banyan and bamboo, with scrubby undergrowth.

The country is hilly and broken, the granite hills rising from one to two thousand feet above sea-level, and their highest points reaching to some three thousand feet.

The winter, from about November to February inclusive, is the dry season; hot on the whole, but with short spells of really cold weather, generally during January and February, when the thermometer occasionally descends to 50° F. in the daytime; whilst the spring and summer are hot and very damp. The spring months are usually the rainiest period. Macao is about forty miles south-west of Hongkong, on the opposite side of the West River estuary. Hongkong is just within the tropics, the line passing through Swatow and about equally dividing Formosa.

1. *CORVUS TORQUATUS*.

Very common and resident. It nests at the end of January or early in February, and feeds its young to a great extent on fish.

2. *PICA RUSTICA*.

One of the commonest resident birds, frequently seen in parties of twenty or thirty. Breeds in January, building the usual domed nest.

3. *UROCISSA ERYTHORHYNCHA*.

A common resident, breeding in April.

4. *DENDROCITTA SINENSIS*.

A rare bird in this part of the country.

5. *GARRULUS SINENSIS*.

A rare bird here.

6. *PARUS CINEREUS*.

Apparently the only Tit in this district. A very common resident.

7. *DRYONASTES PERSPICILLATUS*.

A common resident.

8. *TROCHALOPTERUM CANORUM*.

I have only seen these birds on Hongkong Island, where they may possibly have escaped from the bird-shops, as they are the commonest cage-birds in China.

9. *MYIOPHONEUS CÆRULEUS*.

A common resident.

10. *LARVIVORA SIBILANS*.

A very common bird in winter.

11. *ZOSTEROPS SIMPLEX*.

Very common, moving about the country in little flocks. Resident, and nesting about end of April.

12. *OTOCOMPSA EMERIA*.

Fairly numerous and a resident.

13. *PYCNONOTUS ATRICAPILLUS.*

Commoner on the hills, but found all over the district. A resident.

14. *PYCNONOTUS SINENSIS.*

Certainly the commonest Bulbul, and perhaps the most numerous resident bird.

15. *BUCHANGA ATRA.*

Very common in summer, arriving about the middle of April, and leaving about the end of October. It nests in May.

16. *BUCHANGA LEUCOGENYS.*

Not common. A summer visitor.

17. *BUCHANGA CINERACEA.*

A summer visitor. Not uncommon.

18. *CHIBIA HOTTENTOTTA.*

A rather scarce summer visitor.

19. *PERICROCOTUS CINEREUS.*

A fairly common spring visitor, soon leaving this district, however.

20. *VOLVOCIVORA MELANOPTERA.*

A resident, but not very numerous.

21. *LANIUS SCHACH.*

One of the commonest resident birds and ubiquitous.

22. *LANIUS FUSCATUS.*

Fairly common and resident. Not nearly such a noisy bird as the Schach Shrike, but frequenting the same localities.

23. *LANIUS LUCIONENSIS.*

A fairly common resident.

24. *ORIOLOUS DIFFUSUS.*

A not uncommon resident.

25. *SPODIOPSAR CINERACEUS.*

A winter visitant, not very numerous.

26. *SPODIOPSAR SERICEUS.*

A common bird in winter.

27. STURNIA SINENSIS.

A very common spring visitor, staying to breed, and leaving about the end of September.

28. GRACULIPICA NIGRICOLLIS.

One of the commonest resident birds, breeding in March, when it builds a large untidy nest of coarse grass, roots, and dry pandanus-fibres, lined with finer root-fibres. Two or three nests are often placed in a tree almost bare of leaves, where they are conspicuous objects for miles around.

29. ACRIDOTHERES CRISTATELLUS.

Another very common resident.

30. UROSPHENA SQUAMICEPS.

A common resident.

31. BURNESIA SONITANS.

A very common resident.

32. SUTORIA SUTORIA.

Extremely numerous and a resident.

33. CISTICOLA CISTICOLA.

Common in winter.

34. PHYLLOSCOPUS SUPERCILIOSUS.

Common in winter.

35. PHYLLOSCOPUS FUSCATUS.

Common during winter.

36. PHYLLOSCOPUS PROREGULUS.

Common in winter.

37. PHYLLOSCOPUS TROCHILOIDES.

Also a common winter bird.

38. CRYPTOLOPHA TEPHROCEPHALA.

A somewhat uncommon winter visitor.

39. CETTIA CANTURIENS.

An abundant resident species.

40. HEMICHELIDON GRISEICTICA.

A common spring visitor.

41. *SIPHIA ALBICILLA.*

Common in winter, but I have never shot the fully adult male with a red throat, though I possess a long series of birds.

42. *CYORNIS HAINANA.*

A winter visitor. The female is fairly common, but I have only shot one male.

43. *STOPAROLA MELANOPS.*

A winter bird, and rare.

44. *ALSEONAX LATIROSTRIS.*

Common in winter.

45. *NILTAVA MACGRIGORÆ.*

I have seen only one pair, in winter, the female of which I obtained.

46. *TERPSIPHONE INCII.*

A spring and autumn visitant, but I have shot only females and immature males, which are plentiful.

47. *TERPSIPHONE PRINCEPS.*

A spring visitor, appearing about the beginning of April, and passing along the coast in smaller numbers on its return in autumn, about the end of August.

48. *POLIOMYIAS LUTEOLA.*

Common in winter.

49. *CYANOPTILA BELLA.*

A spring visitant, which arrives about the middle of March, but does not stay through the summer.

50. *XANTHOPYGIA NARCISSINA.*

A spring visitor, arriving about the beginning of April and leaving before the summer.

51. *HYPOTHYMIS OCCIPITALIS.*

Common during winter.

52. *OREICOLA FERREA.*

A somewhat uncommon winter bird.

53. *PRATINCOLA MAURA.*

A very common winter visitor.

54. *RUTICILLA AUROREA.*

Very common during the winter. It arrives about the middle of October and leaves about the end of March.

55. *CALLIOPE CAMTSCHATKENSIS.*

A winter bird, appearing about November. Not common.

56. *IANTHIA CYANURA.*

A winter visitor. The females are numerous, but I have shot only one adult male.

57. *COPSYCHUS SAULARIS.*

One of the most familiar residents. Nests in May.

58. *TURDUS HORTULORUM.*

A very common bird.

59. *TURDUS MANDARINUS.*

Very common in winter. It arrives about the end of October, and leaves about April.

60. *TURDUS CARDIS.*

A common bird in winter.

61. *OREOCINCLA VARIA.*

Not common. One specimen was shot in winter.

62. *MONTICOLA SOLITARIUS.*

A common resident.

63. *MUNIA ATRICAPILLA.*

Not common.

64. *MUNIA TOPELA.*

One of the commonest resident birds.

65. *MUNIA ORIZIVORA.*

Not common.

66. *UROLONCHA SQUAMICOLLIS.*

A very common resident.

67. *EOPHONA MELANURA.*

Not common.

68. *CHLORIS SINICA.*

Common and resident.

69. *PASSER MONTANUS.*

This is the common House-Sparrow here.

70. *EMBERIZA FUCATA.*

A fairly common resident.

71. *EMBERIZA SPODOCEPHALA.*

Common in winter.

72. *EMBERIZA AUREOLA.*

An autumn visitant, but uncommon on the coast, though at Canton it is netted in vast numbers in September and October, and is known as the "Rice-bird."

73. *MELOPHUS MELANICTERUS.*

A common resident: it nests in May.

74. *HIRUNDO GUTTURALIS.*

This is the common Swallow here: it is a summer visitor, arriving in the beginning of February.

75. *MOTACILLA LEUCOPSIS.*

The commonest resident Wagtail.

76. *MOTACILLA MELANOPE.*

A winter visitant and very common.

77. *LIMONIDROMUS INDICUS.*

This bird occurs sparingly in winter and spring.

78. *ANTHUS RICHARDI.*

A very common bird during the winter, frequenting even the most arid and burnt-up country.

79. *ANTHUS MACULATUS.*

Very common during the winter.

80. *ANTHUS CERVINUS.*

A common winter visitor.

81. *ALAUDA ARVENSIS.*

Common in winter.

82. *ALAUDA CÆLIVOX.*

Common in spring.

83. *DICÆUM CRUENTATUM*.

Common and resident. This Flowerpecker feeds both on insects and on the green seeds of various creepers and trees. In winter it is often seen in little parties of three or four, accompanying Tits and Willow-Warblers.

84. *DENDROCOPUS CABANISI*.

A fairly common resident in the better-wooded districts.

85. *LYNX TORQUILLA*.

Fairly numerous in winter.

86. *EURYSTOMUS CALONYX*.

This is a spring and summer bird, irregular in its visits.

87. *CERYLE VARIA*.

This bird is common in the Macao district, where the shore is muddy, but I have never seen it near Hongkong, where the coast is sandy. It nests in April in holes in banks and cliffs.

88. *ALCEDO ISPIDA*.

The commonest resident Kingfisher.

89. *HALCYON SMYRNENSIS*.

A very common resident, though much persecuted for the sake of its plumage, which is used in Canton for ornamental feather-work. It nests in May.

90. *HALCYON PILEATUS*.

A common resident, also shot for the sake of its feathers.

91. *UPUPA EOPS*.

Not common.

92. *CYPSELUS PACIFICUS*.

A summer visitor only. It feeds to a great extent on a species of beetle which infests the paddy.

93. *CAPRIMULGUS MONTICOLA*.

Fairly numerous in winter.

94. *CAPRIMULGUS JOTAKA*.

Apparently only a winter visitor.

95. *CUCULUS SATURATUS*.

A summer bird. Not very common.

96. *CUCULUS MICROPTERUS*.

This and the "Rain-bird" (*Cacomantis merulinus*) are the two commonest Cuckoos here. *Cuculus micropterus* arrives about the middle of April and leaves in October. It destroys countless numbers of larvæ of butterflies, some of which are rare, chiefly on this account.

97. *HIEROCOCCYX SPARVERIOIDES*.

Not uncommon in the summer.

98. *CACOMANTIS MERULINUS*.

A very common and well-known summer visitant. It arrives about the beginning of March, and sings incessantly day and night till about the end of May. Its notes are more feeble through June, and it leaves about August. It breeds at the end of April. It is known to Europeans in China as the "Rain-bird." The skin, unlike that of most of the Cuckoos, is tough and the feathers are firmly attached.

99. *COCCYSTES COROMANDUS*.

A resident, but not common.

100. *EUDYNAMIS HONORATA*.

A very common resident, but its loud call is heard only during spring and summer. It lays in May.

101. *CENTROPUS SINENSIS*.

A common resident.

102. *CENTROPUS BENGALENSIS*.

A fairly common resident.

103. *ASIO ACCIPITRINUS*.

Not uncommon in winter.

104. *KETUPA CEYLONENSIS*.

Not a common species.

105. *BUBO MAXIMUS*.

Not common.

106. *SCOPS STICTONOTUS*.

Fairly numerous.

107. *BUTASTUR INDICUS.*

Not common.

108. *MILVUS MELANOTIS.*

Resident and very common, but most abundant in winter.
It sometimes follows the plough like a Rook.

109. *ACCIPITER NISUS.*

Fairly common in winter.

110. *ACCIPITER GULARIS.*

A fairly common winter bird.

111. *FALCO SUBBUTEO.*

A not uncommon resident.

112. *CERCHNEIS TINNUNCULUS.*

Probably the commonest Hawk in winter.

113. *TURTUR ORIENTALIS.*

A common winter visitant, arriving about November and leaving at the end of April, though a few individuals stay later, and may remain to breed.

114. *TURTUR HUMILIS.*

Not very common. A winter and spring visitor.

115. *TURTUR CHINENSIS.*

The commonest resident Dove.

116. *PHASIANUS TORQUATUS.*

Very scarce.

117. *EXCALFACTORIA CHINENSIS.*

Not uncommon in winter.

118. *COTURNIX COMMUNIS.*

A winter visitor, very plentiful in the paddy-fields.

119. *FRANCOLINUS CHINENSIS.*

A common resident. It has two broods in the year.

120. *TURNIX BLANFORDI.*

Not uncommon in winter.

121. *TURNIX PUGNAX.*

This bird is sometimes shot in winter along with the Common Quail.

122. *HYPOTENIDIA STRIATA.*

Not common.

123. *FORZANA PUSILLA.*

Not uncommon in winter.

124. *AMAURORNIS AKOOL.*

This is a common bird, though shy, and keeps to the dense vegetation of the small paddy-field streams and runnels, coming to the cultivated ground morning and evening to feed. The stomachs of two specimens examined were full of paddy.

125. *AMAURORNIS PHENICURUS.*

One of the commonest resident waterfowl.

126. *GALLICREX CINEREA.*

A common bird in the paddy-fields in summer.

127. *FULICA ATRA.*

A very common resident on the creeks and rivers.

128. *GRUS CINEREA.*

Seen in large flocks up the West River in winter.

129. *HYDROPHASIS CHIRURGUS.*

Not common.

130. *STREPSILAS INTERPRES.*

A winter visitant.

131. *CHARADRIUS FULVUS.*

Common in winter.

132. *ÆGIALITIS GEOFFROYI.*

Apparently a spring visitant.

133. *ÆGIALITIS PLACIDA.*

A winter bird.

134. *ÆGIALITIS MINOR.*

Very common in winter.

135. NUMENIUS PHÆOPUS.
Not uncommon in winter.
136. NUMENIUS ARQUATA.
A common winter bird.
137. NUMENIUS MINUTUS.
Common on migration in spring.
138. TOTANUS OCHROPUS.
A common winter bird.
139. TOTANUS CALIDRIS.
Common in winter.
140. HETERACTITIS BREVIPES.
Fairly common in winter.
141. TRINGA PACIFICA.
Very common in winter.
142. HETEROPYGIA ACUMINATA.
Shot on migration.
143. LIMONITES SUBMINUTA.
A winter visitant.
144. TRINGOIDES HYPOLEUCUS.
A very common resident.
145. SCOLOPAX RUSTICULA.
A fairly common bird in winter.
146. GALLINAGO CÆLESTIS.
A spring and autumn visitor, usually arriving in large numbers.
147. GALLINAGO STENURA.
A not uncommon resident.
148. ROSTRATULA CAPENSIS.
Usually common in spring, but irregular in its visits.
149. LARUS CANUS.
Fairly common.
150. LARUS OCCIDENTALIS.
Also fairly numerous.

151. PELECANUS PHILIPPENSIS.

An uncommon visitor.

152. PHALACROCORAX CARBO.

A common resident.

153. PHALACROCORAX GRACULUS.

Also a common resident.

154. ARDEA MANILENSIS.

A winter visitor.

155. ARDEA CINEREA.

A winter visitant in large flocks to the tidal areas and mud-flats.

156. HERODIAS GARZETTA.

Fairly common.

157. BUBULCUS COROMANDUS.

A common resident.

158. ARDEOLA BACCHUS.

A very common resident.

159. BUTORIDES JAVANICUS.

A common resident.

160. NYCTICORAX GRISEUS.

Common and resident.

161. ARDETTA CINNAMOMEA.

Common and resident.

162. ARDETTA SINENSIS.

Another very common resident.

163. ANAS BOSCAS.

Common in winter.

164. NETTION CRECCA.

Very common.

165. MARECA PENELOPE.

Common in winter.

166. SPATULA CLYPEATA.

Common in winter.

167. *FULIX MARILA*.

Also common during the winter.

168. *PODICIPES PHILIPPENSIS*.

Very common on the creeks and rivers. A resident.

The nomenclature followed is nearly that of the 'Catalogue of Birds in the British Museum.'

XIX.—*On the Melierax metabates of Heuglin.*

By T. SALVADORI, H.M.B.O.U.

THE real status of the bird described by Heuglin under the name of *Melierax metabates* is still uncertain, and I wish to offer a few remarks on it.

The bird was described by Heuglin* in this journal, the author having been assured by the late Dr. Hartlaub that it was "a good and new species." In fact, Hartlaub repeated the same statement†, saying that "zwischen dieser Art (*Astur musicus*) und *M. polyzonus* steht zwischeninne als gute Art *M. metabates* Heugl."

The type and only specimen obtained was said by Heuglin to be from the "upper Bahr el abiad," or White Nile.

The late Marchese Orazio Antinori, in his catalogue‡, mentions two specimens of a *Melierax* from the White Nile, which, along with others from the Blue Nile, he attributes to *M. polyzonus* (Rüpp.).

Heuglin again, in 1869§, mentions and describes *Melierax metabates* as follows:—"Similis præcedenti [*M. polyzono*], ex toto obscurius tinctus; reetricibus lateralibus fasciis 4-6 nigricantibus: pedibus et ceromate flavis." The dimensions given by Heuglin are somewhat greater than those of *M. polyzonus*.

Dr. Finsch, who, in the second volume of Heuglin's work, published some additions to it, has no remarks about *M. metabates*; but in a previous work, published in conjunction

* Ibis, 1861, p. 72.

† Journ. f. Orn. 1861, p. 100.

‡ Catalogo descrittivo di una Collezione di Uccelli, p. 17 (1864).

§ Orn. N.O.-Afr. i. p. 63.